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Anna Lea Merritt pinxit et aqua forte 1880

OPHELIA.

ORIGINAL ETCHING BY ANNA LEA MERRITT.



THE etching herewith published is the last on the list of Mrs. Merritt's plates, as given on page 230 of Vol. I. of the REVIEW. The painting from which the etching was made was shown at this year's exhibition of the Royal Academy, London, and was bought by Lord Walter Campbell. Previous to exhibiting it, however, the artist made special studies among the inmates of an insane asylum, and altered the character of the face so as to give it more of the expression which we would look for in the features of the unfortunate Ophelia. Doubtless, Mr. Lathrop was right, when he said, in speaking of a proof of this etching exhibited at the Boston Art Club last spring (see page 443 of Vol. I.), that there might be various opinions concerning "the ideal fitness" of this head, as it would, indeed, be difficult to detect in it any traces of a wandering mind. But we may also agree with Mr. Lathrop when he adds that there can scarcely be a question as to the high rank of this work in point of *technique*, and it is all the more to be regretted, therefore, that Mrs. Merritt has resolved to drop the point, and devote herself entirely to the brush in future.

S. R. K.

NON PIANGERE!

PAINTED BY LÉON BONNAT. ETCHED BY PAUL RAJON.



LÉON BONNAT is one of the most versatile of modern French artists. Historical and religious painting, genre and portrait, have been cultivated by him with equal success, although he has often been condemned for his strong realism, which, however well it may be thought to befit portrait and genre, is generally looked upon as out of place in historical, and still more so in religious art. Of his more ambitious work in the two classes just named, none, probably, is to be found in the United States. As a portrait painter he is now represented in the Metropolitan Museum of New York by the likeness of Mr. John Taylor Johnston, lately placed there. A very good example of his genre painting, an *Italian Girl and Child*, is in the possession of Mr. H. P. Kidder, of Boston. Of a similar character is the painting, *Don't Cry*, here reproduced in an excellent etching by Paul Rajon, originally published by the Viennese Society for Reproductive Art. The powerful effect which the painter produces by relieving luminous colors against a dark background — the result of his early familiarity with the works of Ribera and the Spanish colorists — is rendered to perfection in the interpretation of the etcher.

S. R. K.